

PENTAGON SIEGE OCT. 21! See below

GAVIN QUILS DEMOCRATS, HITS PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Lieut. Gen. James M. Gavin, asserting that he "will not support Johnson for reelection in 1968," resigned last month from the State Democratic Advisory Council in Massachusetts. Pointing out that members of the council should be ready to support the President, General Gavin, formerly the head of Army research and development, intimated that council membership restrained his opposition to the war in Vietnam.

"It is with great reluctance," read the General's letter of resignation, "that I have concluded that I should disassociate myself from the Council. I am of the conviction that the Council should be fully in support of the Democratic Party and of its leadership." Noting that his views on the present involvement in Southeast Asia are "a matter of public record," General Gavin opined that subsequent to the hearings before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee — in which he opposed the war both militarily and morally — "conditions, in my opinion, have continued to deteriorate in Southeast Asia."

The General observed, moreover, that "the news today of the widespread burning, rioting and looting in our cities makes it obvious that we have been misdirecting our resources and energies to Southeast Asia for the past five years, when we should have been taking care of our domestic problems at home." The man who served as Ambassador to France under President Kennedy firmly advised the Council that, in view of the facts, "I cannot possibly support the Democratic Party in the Presidential election of 1968 if it adheres to its present Southeast Asian policy."

Gavin, a retired General who is now chief executive officer of Arthur D. Little, Inc., an industrial research company in Cambridge, Mass., in his appearance before the Senate Hearings last year, stated emphatically that all bombing of North Vietnam should cease.

ADMIRAL TRUE TOUR SET

Rear Admiral Arnold E. True, U.S.N. (Ret.) will speak against the Viet war in at least four cities starting Monday, Oct. 9, in Chicago's Orchestra Hall, sponsored by Veterans for Peace in Vietnam. After radio & TV appearances on the 10th in Chicago, Admiral True will speak in Detroit, Oct. 11th (Veterans Against the War), Pittsburgh Oct. 12th (Veterans for Peace) and Philadelphia Oct. 13th (Veterans for Peace in Vietnam). The Pittsburgh vets are coordinators for the tour. Their address is on page 3.

See next issue of VS&SP for a major article by Admiral True.



Lt. Col. Reynolds Moody, U.S.M.C. (Ret.), 11 years a Marine pilot, heads into the attack again — this time on Dean Rusk and the rotten war in Vietnam. The Miami Beach Sun published this photo by Ted Press on July 18, 1967, when Moody, active in Miami Vets for Peace, joined their demonstration at a Rusk speech.

Col. Moody, holder of the Air Medal (with clusters), Distinguished Flying Cross and other decorations, entered combat at Guadalcanal and led VMF (N) 541, the Hellcat squadron that landed in Japanese-occupied Peking, signalling victory in 1945. He's still fighting — for peace.

GENERAL SHOUP BLASTS WAR ON A.B.C.-TV SHOW

A.B.C.—TV's SCOPE is a weekly news program dealing entirely with the war in Vietnam.

The show has been running for over a year and a half. In that time, SCOPE has examined almost every aspect of the war. On Sunday, August 6, 1967 SCOPE chose as its title "An Uncommon Breed" and as its guest former Marine Commandant Gen. David Shoup, who has long been a critic of the Vietnam war. Until his appearance on SCOPE he had refused many offers to write and speak before anti-war groups.

But because he is a man of courage and vision, Gen. Shoup agreed to appear on SCOPE and set forth his views in greater detail.

General Shoup was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery during the Battle of Tarawa. He served under three Presidents and was a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for four years before his retirement from the Marines in 1963.

Today he lives almost within the shadow of the Pentagon, and as he continues to ponder the problems of the world, "he's a troubled man." The following are highlights from General Shoup's interview with ABC-TV's John Scali:

SCALI: . . . the view of some of our leading generals and military strategists over the past years has been to avoid fighting a land war on the Asian mainland. Is this the kind of war that we are now fighting in Asia? The very one that our military leaders, by and large, thought we should not fight?

GEN. SHOUP: . . . I could go under oath and state that what is now transpiring in South Vietnam is exactly the situation which most military and naval people, in my time in the service were most against ever coming to pass. And I believe that you could find in public records, the same ideas expressed by two or three of our presidents.

SCALI: If this was the view of the military people, why didn't they speak out against that course of action when it came time to make a decision?

GEN. SHOUP: You seem to be assuming that they didn't. I'm not aware of whether they did or whether they didn't. The only thing that I'm aware of is that, the one who had the final decision, decided to do what we're now doing.

SCALI: It seems from the comments of most of the leading generals and military figures in the administration today, that they enthusiastically support the Vietnam policy. Is that wrong?

GEN. SHOUP: I think there's a great distinction, John, between Vietnam policy of getting involved, and Vietnam policy of what do we do now that we are involved. Now I don't think that there's a military man alive, and I hope that there are no Americans alive, that don't enthusiastically support the idea of our government supporting our troops that are in combat. Absolutely. But I think you can find millions of people, and I think amongst them a great many military people, that are not now, and never were, in favor of the policy of getting involved in the ground warfare in South Vietnam to the extent that we now are . . .

They're ordered there. But whether they should have ever gone in there in the first place, for the purpose for which we are told they must be in there is what I question.

SCALI: General, at the risk of quoting you out of context I just want to read one sentence in that speech that you made. "I believe that if we had, and would keep our bloody, dirty, dollar-crooked fingers out the business of those nations, so full of depressed, exploited people, they will arrive at a solution of their own."

GEN. SHOUP: Right.

SCALI: Is this the basis of your whole case?

GEN. SHOUP: Well, I think perhaps you could use that as a basis . . .

During the course of the interview, Gen. Shoup made mention of America's failure to go to the aid of the "Hungarian Freedom Fighters" in the 1956 uprising, and juxtaposed this with our present position in Vietnam.

Gen. Shoup also stated he felt that it was possible for us to co-exist with communism, and that he believed that North (Continued on back page)



VETERANS STARS & STRIPES for PEACE

5¢ 360
Vol. 1, No. 1 Chicago, Ill. Sept., 1967 dedicated to ending the war in Vietnam

Everyone to Washington Oct. 21!

Veterans join call to bring men home NOW!

by Ron Wolin (N.Y. Regional Editor) & LeRoy Wolins

Marching orders are out! Target: THE PENTAGON, Washington, D.C. D-Day: Saturday, 21 October 1967.

Forces: Hundreds of thousands of angry Americans from all walks of life, groups and individuals, fed up with the Vietnam war, demanding: "Support our men in Vietnam — Bring them home NOW — ALIVE!" Veterans in the vanguard.

Deployment: on foot, by car, in buses, on trains and planes.

Tactical objective: a massive confrontation with the warmakers, each group and individual on their own level of militancy, by all opponents of the war.

Strategic objective: the building of a nation-wide mass movement capable of forcing the U.S. Government to end the illegal, immoral and unjust war being waged against the Vietnamese people.

Overall command is in the hands of the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, whose Administrative Committee outlined the plan at a meeting in Washington Aug. 25. Brochures, leaflets, posters, stickers, buttons and transport and housing information are available from the Committee at 857 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003 (tel. 212 675-4605).

U.S. Embassies and Consulates in virtually every major city of the world will witness solidarity confrontations Oct. 21st organized by the peace forces of the respective countries.

Led by veterans of Vietnam, Korea, World War II and World War I, the massed demonstrators will march from assembly points near Washington's Mall across all five bridges spanning the Potomac River

McGovern lauds vets' effort to end Viet war

Senator George McGovern (D., S.D.), in a letter to the Veterans for Peace in Vietnam, observed that veterans have a "special interest" in working toward world peace, "including a resolution of the conflict in Vietnam."

Text of the letter follows:

Dear Friends:

Veterans have a special interest in working toward world peace, including a resolution of the conflict in Vietnam.

I wish you well in your efforts to bring about an honorable and early end to the war.

Sincerely,
George McGovern

toward their dramatic confrontation with the symbol of U.S. militarism.

On the Pentagon grounds a variety of peace activities — picketing, dramatic presentations, rallies — conducted throughout the day will contrast sharply with the (Continued on back page)

SHEEN: WITHDRAW NOW!

Following the uprisings in Detroit, Newark, and numerous other cities across the nation, the President called for a national day of prayer. At least one man took him seriously. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, from his pulpit at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester, N.Y., asked the questions: "Could we not also be reconciled with our brothers in Vietnam? May we plead only for a reconciliation between blacks and whites, and not between blacks and whites and yellows?"

In a response that clearly was far more than the President bargained for, Bishop Sheen, speaking "only as a Christian," asked the President to announce: "In the name of God who bade us love our neighbor with our whole heart and soul and mind for the sake of reconciliation, I shall withdraw all our forces immediately from Southern Vietnam, so that, in the words of Lincoln, we 'may unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the Great Lord and Ruler of Na-

tions, and beseech him to pardon our national and other sins'."

Turning back to internal violence that prompted the President's request, the Bishop of some TV fame charged: "While we are rightly condemning violence on the part of others, have we forgotten that the Lord told us that His kingdom is 'gained by violence and the violent carry it away.' But this violence," continued Sheen, "is to be against our own egotism, our hate, our selfishness, our isolation from the burdens, frustration, cares, poverty, hunger and thirst of others." No other member of the U.S. Roman Catholic hierarchy has taken such a forthright position against the President's Vietnam policy. In contrast to statements made by influential hawk Cardinal Francis Spellman of New York, Bishop Sheen's sermon gave new stimulus to the Peace Movement's attempt to enlist the support of the nation's large Roman Catholic community.

VIET VETERANS ORGANIZE

by Jan Crumb, Viet Vets Editor

"We are veterans of the Vietnam war. We believe in the United States of America, its Constitution and laws. We stand ready to defend our nation against its enemies, foreign and domestic.

"We believe in freedom to speak, to think, to change our mind and to dissent. We believe in democracy.

"We do not believe our country should be supported 'right or wrong,' but rather that it is our democratic duty to challenge government policies when we conscientiously believe them to be wrong.

"We believe that the conflict in which the United States is engaged in Viet-Nam is wrong, unjustifiable and contrary to the principles on which this country was founded.

"We join the dissent of the millions of Americans against this war. We support our buddies still in Viet-Nam. We want them home alive. We want them home now. We want to prevent any other young men from being sent to Viet-Nam. We want an end to the war now.

"We believe that this is the highest patriotism."

Under the ideals of the above credo (formally written and adopted later) six Viet-Nam veterans from New York, on June 1, 1967 organized VIET-NAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR. Since then, the group — an outgrowth of individual Viet-Nam veteran participation at the April 15 demonstration in New York and the Memorial Day veterans ceremony in Washington — has expanded rapidly. Collectively its members have served in Viet-Nam or off-shore (some for more than one tour) from the late 1950's right up through the present. Individually they have served with nearly every unit over there, including: MAAG, 5th Special Forces, 9th Marines, 7th Fleet carriers and destroyers, the Air Force, the Merchant Marine, and a variety of Army airborne, signal, logistics, aviation and infantry units. At present they range in rank from PFC to Captain.

According to Francis R. Rocks, Secretary-Treasurer of the new group, VIET-NAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR is not a membership organization per se, but functions more as a coordinating body and clearinghouse, based in New York, for actions by antiwar Viet-Nam veterans across the country. Its steering committee — open to any Viet-Nam veteran — sets general guidelines, plans and sponsors area, regional and national actions, and aids in setting up local groups of Viet-Nam vets against the war. At present there are groups forming or in the process of forming at Columbia University, the University of Indiana, the University of Texas, and in Detroit.

In addition, a number of doctors who have served in Viet-Nam are planning on organizing in opposition to the war.

"The reason for this," says Mr. Rocks, who spent 13 months in Viet-Nam as a communications sergeant, "is because—even though we are in contact with Viet-Nam vets across the country—we do not envision ourselves or intend to become a national organization. We feel that, at this stage anyhow, the impetus should be at the local level—Viet-Nam vets working to influence and educate people in their own area. Hopefully, we can provide an overall coordination for this. But coordination; not command. We will assist and advise, and in national actions provide the ground-work forces, but only with the approval of the local groups and individuals."

At present, VIET-NAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR—working mainly in the New York area until other groups can form—has: picketed LBJ at two Democratic Party dinners in New York, provided four speakers and a marching contingent at the July 4th veterans' demonstration in Philadelphia, sponsored a petition for a referendum on the war in New

York City and a Hiroshima Day commemoration that also supported Capt. Howard Levy's right to bail while his appeals are pending, leafleted New York's Port Authority and several airports across the country, and provided speakers to a number of church, college, community and peace groups. In all of these actions they have received a growing amount of press attention, including national radio and TV interviews, panel discussions and debates. Various individuals, and the group itself, have been featured in a number of newspapers and magazines.

VIET-NAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR is presently located at 17 East 17th Street, New York, New York 10003. Telephone: (212) 989-9376.

VIET VETS WRITE TO SENATOR FULBRIGHT

The following is from the Congressional Record of 16 June, 1967.

Mr. FULBRIGHT. Mr. President, along with several other Senators, I have made numerous speeches in opposition to the continued escalation of the war in Viet-nam. I have tried to be as persuasive as I could; but after I read the letters which I shall ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record as a part of my remarks, I confess that my arguments have lacked a depth of feeling and understanding which can come only from those who have actually participated in the fighting in Vietnam.

These letters are by no means all of the letters of this character which I have received, but they are typical, and they carry a conviction and a concern which seems to me to be unanswerable. The young men who wrote these letters make one proud of our young men. Obviously, they are courageous and devoted to their country; but beyond that, they demonstrate a humanity and a concern for other human beings which is all too often submerged and obliterated in a period of violence and bloodshed.

There is nothing I can possibly say as poignantly persuasive against the continued escalation of the slaughter of the people of Vietnam, and, of course, the loss of our own soldiers. Surely, we have had enough of the killing of men, women, and children, and can now search more diligently for a way to the conference table and an honorable peace in that ravaged land.

I have deleted the names of the authors of these letters for their protection. I ask unanimous consent that the letters be printed at this point in the Record.

(The first letter follows. The others will appear in future issues of VS&SP—ed.)

U.S. FORCES REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Dear Senator: I have been meaning to write this letter to you for a long while. This evening the pressures are too great to be ignored, even though they are the result of several small occurrences rather than one large disaster. Although, in one sense, the large disaster surrounds me, adding fresh dimensions of madness daily.

Last evening I listened to a VOA broadcast on "Viet Nam War Dissent in the United States." The essential theme was that those who protest the war were either Communists or cranks. And coupled with this was a very reminder that we have our share of lunatics, who wish a wider war, and that they also dissent from present

about the crisis in Vietnam, and lastly I have done a radio program on my personal views.

I think that is now for me to come to the point. I would like to form a Veterans For Peace Organization in the Boston and Cambridge area. In order to do this, and for it to become effective I must have the support from your Organization and from others which have the same purpose, which is ending the war in Vietnam. I would appreciate any literature (in bulk supply) and information that would help us form a more effective organization such as yours.

Dennis L. Simpson
Boston Draft Resistance Group
138 River Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts



Viet vets denounce the war they fought in N.Y., 15 Apr. 67. Photo: Ted Reich.

policy. Not one word about responsible, reasoned objections to this war by men of principle—no, we couldn't admit that.

Following the VOA broadcast I turned to Radio Peking. The usual inanities about the "glorious thought of Chairman Mao" sounded somehow different — because I realized how close the two distortions were, in their joint disregard of truth while pursuing doctrine. I am horrified that my government is unable to admit to the world that there is any possibility of "error" in its thought. How can we expect other peoples to believe us on any subject when we tell lies about ourselves?

But this is really a small point, which only assuages a deeper discontent — this evening it is fairly quiet, but Monday, while at the province chief's house the large party enjoyed good food and loud music, in the next valley over the ridge the 500-pounders fell steadily. The villagers get a different sort of music, B-52 style.

I wondered then if we can ever put these people back together as fast as we are blowing them apart. But the PC's party didn't seem worried. No one, after all, is bombing them.

It is just that, in the past few months as an adviser to the VN Coastal Force, I have seen too often the real casualties of this conflict, the farmers and their families in the Delta mangled by air strikes, and the villagers here killed and burned out by our friendly Korean mercenaries. Even ignoring for a moment the massive presence of Americans (a thing in practice impossible), is there any moral distinction between the infiltrating of North Vietnamese units and the importation of Kor-

eans. Except that the Communists are at least Vietnamese, and cannot possibly behave towards other Vietnamese as the Koreans do.

Of course, I do my share in the lunatic ward. I have even been reprimanded for over-enthusiastic pursuit of VC. Part of it is just compensation — it is refreshing, after seeing so many innocent people suffer, to meet real, live hostile forces capable of striking back.

This evening they showed the JFK documentary film here in the MACV compound. I could not help but feel a great sense of loss as I listened to the richly rolling phrases—whatever has become of our dream? Where is that America that opposed tyrannies at every turn, without enquiring first whether some particular forms of tyranny might be of use to us? Of the three rights which men have, the first, as I recall, was the right to life. How then have we come to be killing so many in such a dubious cause?

I wish I had more answers. But the obligation to oppose evil is pretty absolute—it doesn't necessarily depend on having an exact blueprint for entering the Promised Land.

As you are probably aware, I am possibly violating seventeen thousand directives in writing to you. But it is not possible to keep silent, as you so amply demonstrate. You remind me of Kent, in *Lear*, who in the face of dire threats from his king replied: "Whilst my tongue can yet give vent to clamor I'll tell thee thou doest evil." I pray that you fare far better than Kent. And as a certain comedian less than half-jokingly pleads: "I want my country back." Good-night sir.

Vietnam Remembered: I

WHY SAIGON IS SO UGLY

By Bob Wilkinson

Saigon is one of many Asian cities which have at one time or another been called the "Pearl of the Orient." To even the most casual observer, it is immediately obvious that this name no longer applies to the capital of South Vietnam.

At one time, Saigon might have been called a "Venice of the Orient" owing to the canals which crossed the city. These canals were, for the Vietnamese, a principal means of transport, and provided adequate facilities for washing clothes, bathing, etc.

Then the French came. Finding the local facilities incompatible with the comforts of home, they adapted Saigon to the French way of life. This created problems which have plagued Vietnamese living in Saigon ever since.

The canals — which had been Saigon's plumbing — were filled to make broad, tree-lined boulevards. To compensate for this, running water was piped to French villas and hotels, but it apparently was not part of the "White Man's Burden" to extend the blessings of running water to the rest of the population.

The boulevards were built presumably so the French could have traffic circles upon which to build monuments to French heroes. Consequently, Saigon is dotted with useless and dangerous traffic circles where the timid dare not cross on foot. Lately, however, the military regime has found these areas useful for corralling antigovernment and anti-American demonstrators.

Today, Saigon has the appearance of a military garrison. The well-to-do Vietnamese and the Americans who now occupy the old villas have found it necessary to stretch barbed wire across the tops of their garden walls, or have broken glass

Bob Wilkinson served with the Air Force in Vietnam in 1965-6. He is now active in Vets for Peace in Vietnam in Madison, Wisc. VS&SP will publish a series of his articles.

imbedded in them to keep out would-be terrorists. The broad boulevards now carry military convoys which crowd out the pedicabs. U.S. firepower has provided Saigon with a steady influx of refugees, which has increased Saigon's population by at least 50%.

Along with troops (some 20,000 in Saigon, 50-60,000 in the immediate vicinity) came the camp-followers — the bar-girls, the prostitutes, the black market. Relations between Americans and Vietnamese are almost entirely mercenary; the U.S. exploits Vietnam to further its concept of anti-communism, Vietnamese trade with American troops to enhance their own wealth at the expense of their countrymen. Galloping inflation even stings the GI's pocketbook and drives poor Vietnamese into the black market in order to survive.

The "Pearl of the Orient" and its citizens have been stained by over a century of misrule.

LETTER FROM VIET VET

Dear Editor:

I am a 24 year old veteran of the Vietnam crisis, and have recently been discharged from the Marine Corps. I stayed in Vietnam for a period of 15 months, I served on the line for 4 months and then was transferred to the Air Wing Detachment. Ever since my discharge from the service I've been speaking out against the crisis which now exists in Vietnam and with the intervention of the United States. I have spoken in a number of places in the Boston and Cambridge area, such as Harvard University Philosophy Department, and at meetings set up by the Boston Draft Resistance Group, and the Boston and Cambridge Committee Against the war in Vietnam. I have also had several articles written up on my personal views

General Hugh B. Hester

Vietnam and empire



General Hester served in the U.S. Army for 34 consecutive years, and is now a retired U.S. Regular Army officer of flag rank. During World War I he was awarded the Silver Star and the Croix de Guerre for gallantry in action. He was awarded the United States Distinguished Service Medal, highest non-combat military award. He was elected to the French Legion of Honor. Since his retirement he has spent 3 1/2 years doing graduate work in International Relations at the University of Pennsylvania. He has been published in leading U. S. periodicals. He has crossed the nation 3 times on lecture tours, and is co-author of *On the Brink*. He lives in Asheville, N.C.

First, I want to make it clear that I believe in individual self defense and in national defense. Both must be clearly defensive, not acts of aggression. The individual must be prepared to defend his action before the domestic courts. And any national government should be required to secure the approval of the sovereign people before acting, except in repelling surprise attack. The people, in turn, should act only out of proper respect for world opinion and in their vital interests.

It would be difficult to find a more blatant violation of the principle laid out above than the present Johnson Administration's war against the Vietnamese people.

In a speech to the Governors' Conference, Seattle, Washington, Aug. 4, 1953, General Eisenhower, then President, attempted to justify the use of U. S. taxpayers' money in financing the French Colonial War against the Indo-Chinese people in these words, "Let us assume we lose Indo-China; . . . the peninsula, the last bit of land hanging on down there, would be scarcely defensible . . . the tin and tungsten that we so greatly value from that area would cease coming . . ." (New York Times, Aug. 5, 1953.) And General Eisenhower might have added cobalt, manganese, oil, rice, rubber, uranium, to tin and tungsten in his attempted justification for the use of public funds for special interests.

Twelve years later a Democratic Senator, Gale McGee, of Wyoming, in a Senate speech Feb. 17, '65, attempted to justify the killing of Vietnamese men, women, and children, and American boys in these words: "The Empire in Southeast Asia is the last large resource area outside the control of any one of the major powers . . . it can upset the balance of the world . . . I believe that the condition of the

Vietnamese people, and the direction in which their future may be going, are at this stage secondary . . ." (*I. F. Stone's Weekly*, Mar. 1, '65.)

In the above statements by Eisenhower and McGee, no mention is made of the freedom or independence of the people who live in the area. Nor is any mention made of the obvious fact that the raw materials of the area were available to all customers in accordance with standard legal trade practices among sovereign peoples.

Once that Colonial France was defeated at Dienbienphu in 1954, despite massive U.S. aid; once that Cardinal Spellman's Catholic Mandarin, Ngo Dinh Diem, was installed as the Eisenhower Administration's Quisling south of parallel 17, then freedom, independence self-determination, *et cetera*, became the official propaganda order of the day. Now the Johnson Administration has taken over the French Colonial War in Indo-China, and made it into an American Imperial War in open violation of the U.S. Constitution, U.S. obligations under the United Nations Charter and the Eisenhower non-interference pledges. The whole sordid affair is exposed and set forth in a carefully detailed document in a scholarly article, "The Vietnam Lobby," by Robert Scheer and William Hinckle in the July, 1965 issue of *Ramparts Magazine*.

The Johnson Administration has been unable to prove any of its alleged justifications for its Vietnamese War. Far from it; there is strong evidence of skulduggery. Tom Wicker of the *New York Times* reported in *Esquire*, June 1965, that Mr. Johnson had been carrying his Tonkin Gulf Resolution of August, 1964, around for weeks waiting for a suitable time to submit it. Don and Arthur Larson in a booklet, "Vietnam and Beyond" (Duke University Press) show clearly that Eisenhower made no military commitment whatsoever to the Saigon Quislings. Even the General told the press, Aug. 17, 1965, that he was not even "talking about military aid." *I. F. Stone's Weekly*, and the *New Republic*, in independent analyses completely refuted the charge made in the State Department's White Paper of early 1965, that North Vietnam was giving massive aid to the Viet Cong, and infiltrating below the 17th parallel.

Mr. Johnson's tragic war on the Vietnamese, now threatening to explode into a world disaster, could not, in my considered judgment, have been pulled off without the mistake of a Congressional peacetime conscription act. This war could be ended in a short time even now if the Congress had refused to extend military conscription beyond June 30, 1967. Senator Richard B. Russell gave unintentional support to this view in the Senate draft debate, May 11, 1967, when he stated, "If we are to go into the open market and hire men to constitute an armed force of 3,500,000 men, there would hardly be enough money to carry on the other operations of government."

When Senator Russell made the state-

isolation of lack Americans in slums and poverty. Knowing these conditions one would imagine that the loudest voice for cessation of U.S. participation in the Vietnam war would be that of Black Americans'

Add to the problem of the urban Negroes that of some of the rural Southern Negroes and the justification for demanding the US withdrawal from Vietnam becomes compelling. One has only to consider the recent report by some doctors of the conditions that prevail in the Mississippi Delta: ". . . We saw homes with children who are lucky to eat one meal a day . . . who don't get milk, fruit, green vegetables, or meat . . . They have literally nothing . . . They are living under such primitive conditions that we found it hard to believe we were examining American children of the 20th Century." Yet the U.S. government spends billions in Vietnam. According to the recent Republican Party white paper on the Vietnam war the U.S. is spending "one-fifth of its entire national budget" on the Vietnam conflict alone.

And consider the horrible incongruity of being able to spend billions abroad to make war on humans and not being able to spend 20 million dollars at home to make war on rats.

Black Americans should disassociate themselves from any implication that they approve of or condone the Vietnam war. They should let it be known that they object to having Black American fighting men asked to lay down their lives in Vietnam, because the real fight for freedom is right here, right now.

ment quoted above, he knew very well that there is no lack of patriotism among the American people, or shortage of young men willing to die for the true interests of their country. He also knew that the Johnson War in Vietnam is not in the interest of the American people. As a matter of fact, he is on record as publicly opposing the war, earlier.

What may have happened to him, and, I fear, to many others, is that he and they place the loss of official face above the loss of human life, and loyalty to the establishment above any other national loyalty. This is not uncommon among the ruling class in the Nation State System, where it is often common practice to place the interest of the privileged few above the general interest of the public.

If Mr. Johnson's War in Vietnam was

Sergeant Donald Duncan

Viet election, a farce

M/Sgt. Donald Duncan, a much-decorated Special Forces ("green beret") hero, with 10 years' service including 18 months in Vietnam, turned down a battlefield commission as Captain to come home and denounce the Viet war in the famed article "The Whole Thing Was a Lie!" in the February, 1966, issue of *Ramparts Magazine*. Reprints of the article are available from *Vets for Peace*, Box 4598, Chicago, Ill. 60680, at 15c each, 10/\$1.00. Duncan will be a regular contributor to *VS&SP*.

* * *

Much has been made of the election in Vietnam. It was no surprise to hear LBJ defend a thing so farcical but I was interested in the comments of politicians and other "respectables." New voices deploring and "pointing with alarm" at the machinations of Ky and Thieu are welcome but I am dismayed by their dismay.

It's difficult to believe they only now became aware of the Vietnamese military Mafia. Millions of words have been written about the various corrupt regimes and we Vietnicks have shouted it from the rooftops. The farce of the Constitutional Assembly elections which resulted in an equally farcical Constitution and Assembly was only one of the more recent examples. The village chief elections were another.

Some of the "respectables" are now say-

ing in the vital interests of the American people, I do not believe for a moment that his Administration would have any real difficulty in raising a volunteer military force of the required number. I am convinced that the best students in our colleges and universities would promptly volunteer for service. There is an idealism among our young people which is, I fear, not matched by those in their thirties and forties. Otherwise the military-fit hawks would be enlisting.

The sad truth is that the informed in and out of government know that the security of this nation is not threatened by the Vietnamese people in any way, or by any other Asian people. The Johnson Administration is simply waging a naked and raw war of aggression in Vietnam in its grab for global power.

ing if the elections are not fair we should pack up and leave Vietnam; otherwise our soldiers there will be dying for nothing. Others are saying we can't get out whatever or those 15,000 already killed will have died for nothing. Both groups miss the point. Only the most uninformed can still believe our aims in Vietnam are to establish an independent democracy. Election processes of themselves don't make democratic processes.

In an election where the largest single organized group of people (aside from the U.S. Army, in Vietnam, the NLF, is denied access to the electoral process, by definition it is a farce. Since it was this same denial which helped start the war, perpetuating such denial is not likely to stop it.

Only a total political-economic-social revolution of Vietnamese origin will solve that country's problems, which is the very thing the U.S. is trying to prevent. Instead we give them elections.

The point missed by the "respectables" is this. From the beginning, this country has supported and encouraged one corrupt dictatorial regime after another in Vietnam. Our billions have served to increase the corruption. In those rare areas controlled by our troops the Saigon regime uses the areas to increase their dictatorial powers not lessen them. If we continue to impose the likes of Ky and Thieu on the Vietnamese through phony elections and force of arms—if we stay in Vietnam long enough to achieve something to which the label "victory" can be affixed—not only will our soldiers in Vietnam have died for nothing, but all those who fought and died in WW II to defeat the very thing we now promote will have died for nothing.

Directory of vets groups

The following is a directory of Veterans for Peace groups we know of. Please send in immediately any corrections or additions you know should be made. If you see a group listed in your area, join

them. If your don't see one, contact *VS&SP*, Box 4598, Chicago, Ill. 60680, and we'll put you in touch with other vets in your locality so you can start one. Go to it!

Atlanta Veterans for Peace
41 Exchange Place SE
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Tel. (404) 523-6628

Boston-Cambridge Veterans for Peace
in Vietnam
351 Massachusetts Ave., Apt. 1
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Tel. (617) 547-2570

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
P.O. Box 4598
Chicago, Ill. 60680
Tel. (312) 421-2699
(Office: 1608 W. Madison St., Rm. 201)

Veterans Against the War
1101 W. Warren Avenue
Detroit, Michigan
Tel. (313) 832-5700

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
c/o Jim Thomas
334 Charles Street
East Lansing, Michigan

Veterans and Reservists for Peace in Vietnam
c/o Kalousek, 1st Floor
1140 Randolph St.
Gary, Indiana 46403
Tel. (219) 938-7129

Long Island Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
151 Schenck Avenue
Great Neck, New York

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
c/o Allen Zak
542 North Alexandria
Los Angeles, California 90004

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
c/o Bob Wilkinson
202 Marion St.
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Tel. (608) 256-0857

Miami Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
P.O. Box 352 (Kendall)
Miami, Florida 33156
Tel. (305) 235-4888

DISTRIBUTE VETERANS STARS & STRIPES FOR PEACE TO SERVICEMEN IN YOUR LOCALITY! (\$3.00/100 copies delivered. \$15.00/1000 copies delivered.)

Milwaukee Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
c/o Irv Kurki, Suite 211
1012 North 3rd St.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203
Tel. (414) 273-6316

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
Box 4028, University Station
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414

New Jersey Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
17-19 Jordan Road
Fair Lawn, New Jersey

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
Box 28, Old Chelsea Station
New York, New York 10011

Vietnam Veterans Against the War
17 East 17th Street
New York, New York 10003
Tel. (212) 989-9376

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
P.O. Box 7553
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

Pittsburgh Veterans for Peace
Box 186
Carnegie Mellon University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213
Tel. (412) 521-7441

Rockland County Veterans for Peace
P.O. Box 1
Sloatsburg, New York 10974

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
c/o Peace Center
1544 Seventh Avenue
San Diego, Cal. 92101
Tel. (714) 232-6219

Veteranos Pro Paz en Vietnam, San Juan.
c/o Dr. Raphael Navarro Cadiz
De Diego No. 1
Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico 00925

Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
P.O. Box 7179
Washington, D.C.
Tel. (202) 223-1380

Westchester Co. (NY)
Veterans for Peace in Vietnam
92 Dutch Street
Montrose, New York

Dink McCarter

Dr. King was right



Last year Dr. Martin Luther King was roundly condemned by much of the American press and by many government officials for associating the civil rights movement with the anti-war movement; it was claimed that great harm would be done the cause of civil rights in this country. Unfortunately many Negroes were swayed by these arguments against Dr. King and refrained from supporting him in his anti-war activities. It is to be hoped that recent occurrences in U.S. cities will indicate to them that they have been duped.

The recent racial disturbances in some U.S. cities should serve to convince the—until now—reluctant element of the Negro community that the war in Vietnam is not conducive to their interests. These disturbances have pointed out the hopelessness and despair of so much of the black population of this country. It is probably irrelevant whether the majority of Negroes agree on the immorality of American action in Vietnam. But it must surely be obvious—or rapidly becoming so—that it is ridiculous to concentrate so much American money in Vietnam when we have a major crisis right here in the U.S. The crisis of inadequate education and the

October 21st ... A letter to the President

(Continued from front page)

warmaking center's "normal" business of organizing wholesale death. Many thousands of the marchers are expected to block all Pentagon entrances to stop the war machine for as long as possible.

Those people who can are urged to remain in Washington Sunday, Oct. 22, and possibly longer for additional actions. Veterans will hold their first national conference Sunday.

Build-up activities for October 21st include:

Daily actions at Washington Selective Service Hq. and House and Senate Armed Services Committees starting Sept. 11th.

A National Draft Refusal action Oct. 16th, sponsored by The Resistance movement.

Peace caravans of cars from all parts of the U.S.

A huge Washington folk-rock fund-raising concert Friday night, Oct. 20th, kicking off the weekend.

Vets are signing a statement quoting opposition to the war by General David M. Shoup, former U.S. Marine Commandant, and Rear Admiral Arnold E. True, which will be published in papers in cities throughout the U.S. along with calls to local citizens to join the Peace Army.

The full text and a signature blank appear below. Please sign it if you are a veteran, and get it back to us at P.O. Box 4598, Chicago, Ill. 60680. Vets and non-vets alike, let us know how many additional copies you want for circulation.

Signed copies of the statement must be mailed in by October 1, 1967 to insure publication. Be sure to indicate whether your vets group is planning to publish the ad locally.

Vietnam Veterans Against the War are placing their own ad in the New York Times and may be contacted at 17 E. 17th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10003 (tel. 212 989-9376).

The next issue of VS&SP will carry specific plans concerning vets' participation in this important peace action. **But don't wait — start your local organizing now!** Write us with your ideas so we can coordinate the planning of the vets' role in the mobilization.

If you value peace, the lives of our men and good name of America, you'll be in Washington October 21st. For full details, contact any local peace organization, the National Mobilization Committee (address above) or us.

The text:

HOW SHOULD WE SUPPORT OUR MEN IN VIETNAM?

1. Do we send more to be killed and maimed? Already (to be filled in with current figure when published) Americans have been killed and.....wounded. Over 1,500,000 Vietnamese men, women and children are casualties.

2. Or should we bring them home now—ALIVE?

We veterans of Vietnam and earlier wars agree with Gen. David M. Shoup (Ret.), U.S. Marine Corps Commandant during the Cuban missile crisis, who said:*

"I believe that if we had and would keep our dirty, bloody, dollar-crooked fingers out of the business of these nations so full of depressed, exploited people, they will arrive at a solution of their own. That they design and want. That they fight and work for . . . and not the American style, which they don't want and above all don't want crammed down their throats by Americans.

" . . . what is happening, no matter how carefully and slowly the military escalation has progressed, may be projecting us toward world catastrophe."

We veterans of Vietnam and earlier wars agree with Adm. Arnold E. True (Ret.), U.S. Navy, who has written:**

"We can end the Vietnam fiasco without dishonor by . . . withdrawing our troops and letting the Vietnamese settle their own problems."

**REAL SUPPORT FOR OUR MEN IN VIETNAM COMES FROM THOSE WHO DEMAND:
"BRING OUR TROOPS HOME NOW!!!!"**

*Speaking at the annual Junior College World Affairs Day, Pierce College, Los Angeles, May 14, 1966, and reaffirmed in an interview, ABC-TV Scope program, August 6, 1967.

**Writing to the editor of the Palo Alto, Calif., Times, March 3, 1966.

Name (signed in pen)

Name (printed so we can read it)

Address (number and street, printed)

City, State, Zip (printed)

Telephone No.

Branch of Service (printed)

In what year?

Highest rank held

Decorations won

☐ I contribute herewith \$.....toward publication of this statement.

☐ Please sendcopies of this ad for me to get signed.

☐ Please enter my subscription to VS&SP at \$5.00 for the duration of the war (free to servicemen at their military address)

☐ Herewith is my contribution of \$.... to help publish VS&SP. I will send \$.....monthly.

☐ Herewith \$.....for a bundle at \$15.00/1000, \$3.00/100 copies. Send.....copies monthly.

Make checks payable to VETERANS STARS & STRIPES FOR PEACE. Send to P.O. Box 4598, Chicago, Illinois 60680.

Name

Address

City, State, Zip (or APO or FPO)

and civil war in this country.

I joined the Veterans for Peace in Viet Nam because I have a vision of a better world. I leaflet the induction center here in Chicago every week with the enclosed leaflet which quotes six military leaders. They express my sentiments more eloquently than I ever could.

In closing I beseech you, Mr. President to reverse our present policy which can only lead this nation toward destruction. Withdraw our troops now, and end the war. If for any reason you feel you can not do this, I suggest you resign. Otherwise, history written of this period, will, I am sure, record you as being the most dastardly President this nation ever had.

A Wood-Cutter from Illinois
Lumir J. Subrt

Dissent right periled

Congressional hawks and segregationists are pushing a series of laws aimed at stifling dissent and protest. These include the Cramer (so-called) "anti-riot" bill (H.R. 421); a revival of the defunct Subversive Activities Control (McCarran) Act (H.R. 10390 & 10391); and the Pool "war dissenters" bill (H.R. 8).

H.R. 421 has passed the House; the others will be coming up soon for vote in both the House and Senate. Your letter or wire to your Congressman and Senators can help stop these blows to First Amendment freedoms.

For further information on these bills and what to do about them: Write National Committee to Abolish HUAC, PO Box 74757, Los Angeles, Calif. 90004 or 431 S. Dearborn St., Room 803, Chicago, Ill. 60605.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Could you send me the list of veterans against the war who live in New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont)?

Also, can you get your hands on a New England listing of all the V.F.W.s and American Legion chapters and headquarters?

These items will be of great use to us in our peace education effort. Many thanks.

Andy Rudin

Program Associate, AFSC

P.O. Box 247 Cambridge, Mass.

Shoup ...

(Continued from front page)

Vietnam was willing to negotiate.

The program opened with the following tribute paid to General Shoup by President Johnson in a White House ceremony in 1963 upon Shoup's retirement as Commandant of the Marine Corps:

"We have come here to the first house of the land today to honor General David M. Shoup, not because of the victories which he has brought to our country, but also for the honors he has brought to our heritage. He is a man of great discipline who cares about people.

"I deeply regret his retirement from the service for he is one of an uncommon breed whose numbers are too small and whose duplication is too rare. I would personally have had him continue as Commandant of the Marine Corps."

It followed with:

GEN. SHOUP (speaking to Scali, August, 1967): I don't believe that, with respect to the freedom and security of the people of the United States of America, for today or in the future that the whole of South Vietnam is worth the life of a single American.

Atlanta vets march, visit Captain Levy

Atlanta's Hiroshima Day Peace Parade, the largest demonstration against the Viet war so far in the South with over 600 marchers, was led by the newly formed Veterans for Peace in Vietnam. The two dozen vets, black and white, and wearing their caps, included the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, a leader of Dr. Martin Luther King's Southern Christian Leadership Council.

The Atlanta vets organized a solidarity delegation which visited Capt. Howard Levy, the Army doctor court-martialled for his anti-war convictions, on Sunday, Aug. 20th, at Ft. Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina.

They report Dr. Levy in excellent spirits. "Levy has supporters on the base. Possibly 10-15 fellows wear pro-Levy buttons when off base in civilian clothes. He said there is much anti-war sentiment even among officers and regular Army cadre," reports Bill McKane.

Offer draft info

The next issue of VS&SP will contain a major article on the growing Draft Resistance movement in the U.S. Meanwhile, those who are interested in this front of opposition to the war or want specific advice on their own Selective Service situation can contact the Draft Resistance Clearinghouse, 8 Francis Ct., Madison, Wisconsin 53703, tel. (608) 255-6575.

N.Y. vets: 'Free Levy'

New York vets joined August 5th in a 3000-strong march led thru Midtown Manhattan streets by a large contingent of white-clad doctors, nurses, medical students and hospital workers. The marchers called for release on bail of Dr. Howard B. Levy, U.S. Army Captain sentenced to three years at hard labor for refusing to train Special Forces aidmen on grounds they use medicine primarily for political and military purposes.

At a concluding rally the demonstrators heard two Viet vets: Dr. Arthur S. Blank, Jr., chief psychiatrist in Saigon and Bien Hoa hospitals in 1965-6; and Jan Crumb, Coordinator of Vietnam Veterans Against the War.

Dr. Blank said, "Officers and sergeants in this country and abroad, in basic training centers, in hospitals, and in the base camps in Vietnam, building and maintaining an army and fighting a war, know full well that among them many dissent from national policy and object to the war. Opposition does not stop at the induction center. In my experience, the belief that what we are doing in Asia is wrong, is as widespread in the Army as it is among all our people."

"The soldier's patience is great, but it is not endless," Dr. Blank concluded, "and we thank Dr. Levy for reminding the nation of that. Someday, what is happening this summer in America's cities, could happen in America's army. We do not have forever to end this war."

This copy of VETERANS STARS & FOR PEACE distributed by:

Veterans Stars & Stripes for Peace published by Veterans for Peace in Vietnam, 1608 W. Madison St., Rm. 201, Chicago, Ill. 60612. Tel. (312) 421-2699
5¢/copy, \$3/100, \$15/1000

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